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Representative finance example for Peugeot 107: Cost Price £6550.00, Deposit £107.00, Amount of Finance £6443.00, Period 60 Months, First Payment £107.38, 58 Monthly Payments £107.38, Final Payment £107.58, APR 0.0%. Terms and conditions apply. Vehicles are shown for illustration purposes only. These offers supersede all previously advertised offers. Prices correct at time of going to press. Offers are subject to availability. Licenced credit brokers, written details available on request, finance is subject to status. E&OE. 0844 Numbers charged at local rate. 54198

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Representative Finance Example For Ford B-Max Zetec 5dr Hatchback 1.4 90PS: Cash Price: £12,990.52, Deposit: £51,000.00, Deposit Allowance: £750.00, Total amount of credit: £11,240.52, Purchase fee: £10.00, Credit Facility fee: £100.00, Total amount payable: £14,852.00, 36 Monthly payments of: £199.00, Final payment: £5,918.00, Duration of agreement: 37 months, Representative APR: 12%. Vehicles shown for illustration purposes only. This supersedes all previously advertised manufacturer's promotions. Details correct at time of going to print. Subject to availability. Contact us for terms and conditions. 0844 numbers charged at local rate. 5499

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OWEN AND HAATCHI ARE FULLY BOOKED!

• Owen Howkins and Haatchi were at Waterstone's on Saturday (Picture courtesy of nigel@kengaphotography)

Copies of friendship story fly off the shelves at recent book signing

By **James Booker**
news@basingstokeobserver.co.uk

BASINGSTOKE'S favourite double act entertained crowds of over 200 on Saturday.

Owen Howkins and Haatchi, along with their family, appeared at Basingstoke's Waterstone's store at Festival place for a three-hour signing session of the biography of their life.

'Haatchi and Little B' was written by author and journalist Wendy Holden [Little B is Owen's nickname], documenting the incredible friendship between the pair.

And they have captured the hearts of the town and beyond, with Waterstone's selling out on the day.

Eight-year-old Owen suffers from the rare genetic disorder Schwartz-Jampel syndrome, which causes all his muscles in his body to permanently tense up. He is the only known case in the UK, and less than 40 worldwide.

Haatchi, an Anatolian Shepherd, has been Owen's friend for two years, having been rescued from being tied to a railway line as a five-month old puppy.

He lost a leg and his tail after being hit by a train, but survived and was taken in by Owen's dad Will and stepmum Colleen.

And, according to Colleen, Owen took to the book signing like a duck to water.

"Owen was such a professional! There were quite a few pre-ordered books, and he got very busy, straight down to work," said Colleen.

"When he came out, there was a big eruption of clapping and cheering – it was incredible.

"And Owen lit up – he was like the Christmas tree that had been there a few weeks before.

"He was talking to people, he was doing the stamping, and smiling for everybody."

Owen said: "I really enjoyed it – the best thing was stamping all the books, but I had to do it for Haatchi as well!"

While the relationship between a boy and his faithful friend has been so striking, it is the effect they have in raising awareness for Owen's condition that has been so key in the family's remarkable journey.

• Continued on page 3

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Over the worst? Area still wary of flooding

BASINGSTOKE residents are still bracing themselves for bad weather, although it appears the worst of the stormy conditions might be over.

Buckskin has been severely hit by the floods, with people in several streets being forced to leave their homes and find alternative accommodation.

Some are not expecting to be back in their homes for months.

A statement on Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council (BDBC)'s website reiterated the authority's commitment to the area.

"The flooding in Buckskin continues to remain our main focus as there is no substantial change to water levels," said the statement.

"Despite continuing to have tankers on site pumping throughout the night and day and taking the contaminated flood water to sewage treatment works.

"We are working with partners from the Environment Agency, military engineers, SSE, Hampshire highways and Hampshire Fire and Rescue to consider if there are any other options for any further action that could be taken."

Concerns have been raised about whether a sewage leak would cause problems with tap water in the RG22 area of the borough.

However, South East Water confirmed there was no link between sewer services and the mains water supply, and tap water would therefore be unaffected.

Nevertheless, flood water still poses a risk of contamination.

By **James Booker**
news@basingstokeobserver.co.uk

Bin collection teams cannot currently get to some of the worst-hit roads in Buckskin – Bodmin Close, Exmoor Close, Quantock Close and Prescelly Close.

Parts of Sperrin Close, Ochil Close and 1-14 Antrim Close are also impassable.

As a result, communal bins have been put up along Grampian Way and Blackdown Close – these will be checked daily and emptied when necessary.

A co-ordination zone set up at The Ridgeway Centre in Buckskin is still in operation for people needing assistance.

The Airkix centre in the town has been forced to temporarily close because of flooding, and there are issues with flooding at the lowest level of the Leisure Park.

Portable toilets are still in the area near the Ridgeway Centre for people suffering from problems with flushing their toilets in the surrounding area.

At time of print, Chiltern Way is still closed between the junctions of Buckskin Lane and Blackdown Close, due to the flooding. Therefore there is no access to Buckskin Lane from Chiltern Way.

For all the information on road closures around Basingstoke, visit the county council's website at www.hants.gov.uk.

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• Flooding problems have affected Basingstoke in the last few weeks (Pictures: Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council)

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Franklin Avenue
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Tel: Emma 077950 65042

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Forsythia Walk
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Tel: Lizi 07771 346702

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Raven Road
5.30pm and 7.30pm
Tel: Jo 07515 719190

Winklebury
Fort Hill Community School
Kenilworth Road
7:30pm
Tel: Tina 07810 147400

South Ham
Westside Community Centre
Paddock Road
7.30pm
Tel: Kirsty 07843 276953

Overton
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7.30pm
Tel: Lynn 07885 765341

Bramley
Bramley Village hall, The Street
7.30pm
Tel: Kate 07853 869168

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7.30pm
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Brighton Hill
Viables Craft Ctr, The Barn
The Harrow Way
5.30pm and 7.30pm
Tel: Carole 07976 701459

Tadley
Ambrose Allen Centre,
Franklin Avenue
5.30pm and 7.30pm
Tel: Emma 07795 065042

Popley
Melrose Hall, Abbey Road
9.30am
Tel: Hazel 07796 158098
Kids Corner - Children Welcome

Popley
Melrose Hall, Abbey Road
5.30pm and 7.30pm
Tel: Hazel 07796 158098

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Hundreds turn out to see Haatchi and his Little B!

• *From front page*

"That's always been and always will be the most important aspect of everything that's happened," added Colleen.

"The friendship, love and devotion that comes with it is almost like the rocket that Schwartz-Jampel sits in, in order to be shot round the world.

"And that's made it a lot easier and a lot more accessible for people, because they're not scared of the syndrome.

"Sometimes you hear the medical terms of it, and it's enough to send shivers down anybody's spine, or cause ignorance because people truly don't understand it.

"But when there's a friendship and a devotion to it like that, it makes people more comfortable with trying to find out what it's all about.

"The thing I liked about yesterday, is not one single person looked at Owen the way they used to, including strangers.

"People who didn't know about the book signing were just stopping in their tracks, and were looking at Haatchi, and the look had gone from curiosity to admiration."

Matt Smith, lead bookseller and events co-ordinator at the store, said: "You can never guess how popular these things are going to be.

"To have it blow up in the way it did was amazing," he said "When they approached us, they said it was a local story, we were certainly not expecting it to be something that has gone round the world.

"It was a big surprise, but in a really good way."

• All pictures by nigel@kengaphotography

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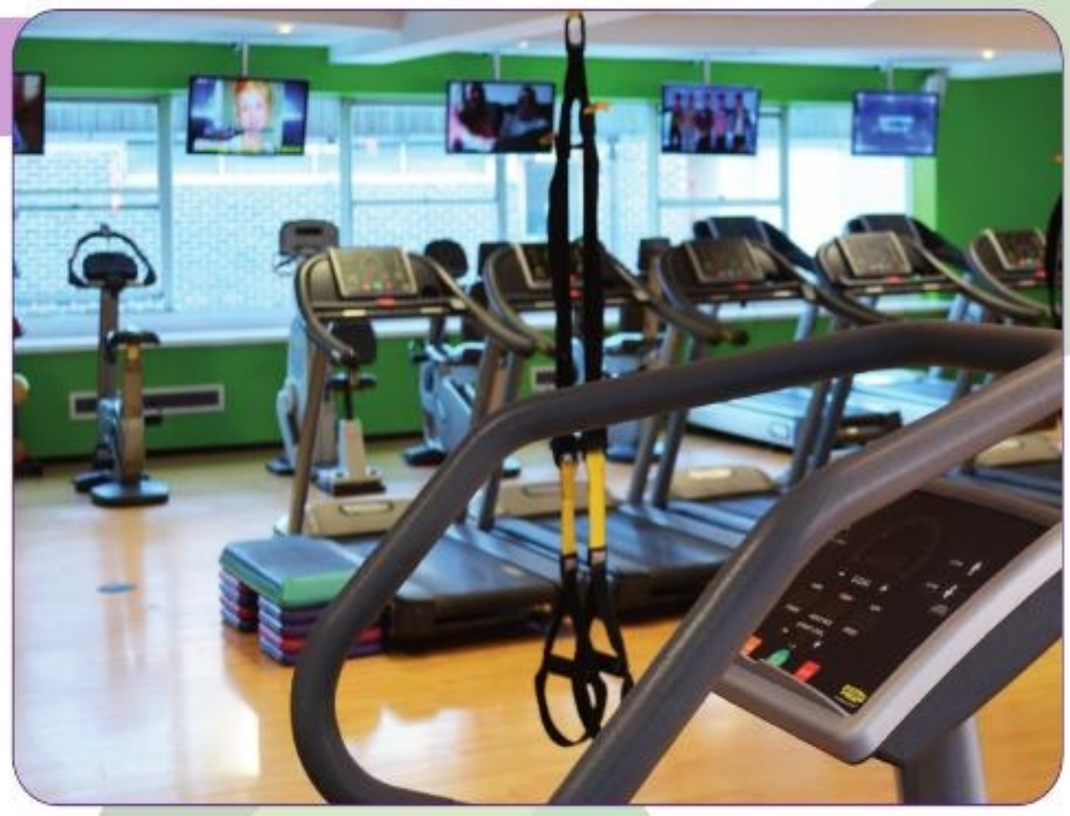

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Volunteer drivers are wanted for foundation

BASINGSTOKE British Heart Foundation (BHF) Shop is urgently appealing to people to volunteer to drive and save lives.

The BHF Shop is looking for some local volunteer drivers who can collect clothing and deliver this to their local shop.

BHF shops need constant deliveries to sell in store to help raise money for vital research that will help fight heart disease.

Volunteering as a driver with the BHF for just half a day a month could fund one of the BHF scientists to carry their life-saving research for an hour.

The BHF provides the salaries for around 500 post-doctoral scientists who work in research teams across the UK on projects which helps them better understand how to diagnose, prevent, treat and cure heart disease.

The shop gives volunteer drivers the opportunity to learn new skills, gain full training and the chance to apply for any paid position that becomes available within the shop.

Mags O'Halloran, area manager for the Basingstoke BHF Shop said: "Our volunteers are at the heart of the charity and we simply wouldn't be able to continue our lifesaving work without them."

£100k raised for disabled children

By **James Booker**
news@basingstokeobserver.co.uk

A HOOK company has raised £100,000 for a charity that helps disabled children.

Serco, an international services company based at Bartley Wood Business Park, raised the six-figure sum for Whizz-Kidz, a UK charity which aims to transform the lives of disabled children and young people through vital mobility equipment, skills training and work placements.

The money has been raised by staff undertaking a variety of fundraising activities and events - from dress down days to climbing Mount Kilimanjaro - on behalf of The Serco Foundation.

There are an estimated 70,000 disabled children and young people in the UK waiting for a wheelchair.

Bob McGuiness, Chief Executive of Serco UK Central Government and Chair of the Serco Foundation, said: "There seems to be no limits to the efforts our UK staff will take to fundraise for this worthwhile cause.

"I am incredibly proud of their achievements and want to thank everyone who donated and took part in the various activities.

"The total amount raised will make a real difference to the lives of many disabled children and young people.

"Whizz-Kidz is a great cause and one that Serco is delighted to support again in 2014."

Whizz-Kidz CEO, Ruth Owen OBE, added: "I would like to thank everyone at Serco for their generosity and willingness to support Whizz-Kidz through fundraising, volunteering days, access to facilities and supplying work placements for the young people we help.

"Serco's latest contribution has meant that Whizz-Kidz can transform lives by providing vital mobility equipment that fits the lives of disabled children across the UK giving them freedom and independence."

To date, staff have raised a total of £125,000 for the charity. Funding has already helped a number of Wheelchair Skills Training sessions, supporting up to 120 disabled young people, and helped Whizz-Kidz meet their aim to deliver 70 Wheelchair Skills Training courses in 2013.

Serco employees are continuing to raise money for the charity during 2014 to fund additional Wheelchair Skills Training, as well as Wheelchairs, Ambassador Clubs and Work Placements.

• Simran Kaur, who recently had a work placement with Serco

Balcony death woman is identified

A WOMAN who was found dead on a Basingstoke balcony has been identified as 45-year-old San Wai Wong.

She was from the Macau region of China, and her body was found on Monday morning on a balcony at the 13-storey Crown Heights in Alencon Link.

She was found on the fifth floor by a member of the public.

Police have confirmed that her next of kin have been told, but have not confirmed the cause of her death.

A post-mortem carried out last week revealed 'multiple injuries' to be the cause of death, which is still being treated by police as 'unexplained'.

A Hampshire Constabulary statement said: "Officers are working closely with the community and carrying out house to house enquiries."

If you have any information about her death, or saw anything unusual during the time of the incident, call police on 101, quoting Operation Astute.

Alternatively, call Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555111.

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The business is continually expanding and includes a new mobile tyre fitting and home start service. A comprehensive diagnostic service can also be provided and the business issues many dealer level tools ranging from Ford, Jaguar to Land Rover and Volkswagen.

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More complex issues include an Engine Control Unit (ECU) remapping service which makes the vehicle more responsive and smoother to driver. In these tough time, it also slightly increases the miles-per-gallon!

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"Come and give us a try. You won't be disappointed," concluded Byron.

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County police happy with crime statistics

By **James Booker**
news@basingstokeobserver.co.uk

HAMPSHIRE'S top cops have welcomed the county's strong performance in the latest crime statistics.

Data released this week from the Office of National Statistics (ONS) showed Hampshire to be among the safer counties in the UK.

The force had the seventh lowest number of homicides in the country (10), 11th fewest 'knife and sharp instrument' crimes (365) and was 18th lowest in the number of firearms offences committed (72).

Temporary head of the force's Crime Standards Department, Detective Superintendent Robert Maker, said: "Hampshire and the Isle of Wight continue to be some of the safest counties of the country to live, work and visit.

"The integrity of crime statistics has recently come under scrutiny. However we are confident that the strict audit and compliance procedures employed by Hampshire Constabulary provide reassurance that the recently released statistics on violent crime are a true reflection of our commitment to protect people from harm and our continued efforts to robustly deal with violent offenders."

The number of domestic abuse incidents recorded in the force area has increased from 23,468 to 25,140.

However, according to the force, this is due to better detection rates and giving people the confidence to come forward and report crimes.

Superintendent Ben Snuggs added: "Domestic abuse is a key priority for Hampshire Constabulary.

"A wide variety of crimes are classified as domestic abuse related in line with the Home Office definition.

"During 2013 this definition changed to include 16 and 17-year-olds and cases where coercion or control was used.

"There are many reasons why domestic abuse crimes also remain under-reported and we have done a lot of work this year to encourage victims, perpetrators, family members and work colleagues to 'Speak Out' about domestic abuse, report it and seek help.

"There is also some really good practice in place with GPs to help victims feel confident to report domestic abuse where, for example, they do not want to initially report directly to the police."

Do you have a story to share with our readers?

Contact the Newsdesk on **01235 516930**

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Search is continuing for missing Michael, 28

POLICE in Alton are growing increasingly concerned for the welfare of a missing man.

Michael Bateman, 28, of Medstead, hasn't been seen since Saturday when he left/ home.

Officers are concerned as it's believed Michael did not take his regular medication, money or phone with him.

He is white, 6ft 3ins, with blue eyes, of slim build and has short brown hair.

He was wearing a hand knitted, zip up charcoal jumper with a hood, blue pinstripe jeans and brown boots.

He may have also been wearing a blue hat.

· Michael Bateman

Whitchurch youngsters to debate key crime issues

TWO young people from Whitchurch will be part of today's meeting of the Hampshire Youth Commission, to discuss key issues about policing and crime.

Callum Nicholson, 18, and Kirsty Francis, 20, will represent the Basingstoke area on the commission as part of the 24 members who have been gathering the views of more than 2,000 young people from across the county.

Issues they will discuss include anti-social behaviour, domestic abuse, relationship with the police, drug and alcohol abuse, and offending and re-offending.

Commissioner Simon Hayes said: "I have been extremely impressed by the professionalism and enthusiasm with which the members of the Youth Commission have approached this task.

"Their findings and recommendations provide a clear insight into the thoughts and needs of young people in our society.

"I will consider them carefully when directing resources and commissioning services as part of my Police and Crime Plan.

"I am hopeful that the commission will have a permanent role within the Police and Crime Commissioner's office.

"For too long, young people have been seen as part of the problem. It's now time to make them part of the solution to crime."

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Workers' salary cuts 'not an easy decision'

AN ENERGY company has said the decision to reduce the salaries of hundreds of its Basingstoke employees was not a decision it took lightly.

By **James Booker**
news@basingstokeobserver.co.uk

The Basingstoke Observer received an anonymous letter from a concerned Scottish and Southern Energy (SSE) worker, which brought the matter to light.

In the letter, the worker claims 700 salaries will be cut, over 300 of which are in the Basingstoke area.

Staff, it is said, have been told they may lose between £1,000 and £15,000 per year, depending on their role.

The letter read: "Many of us that are affected have worked there between 15 and 30 years.

"They say they need to bring our salaries in line with everyone else, many of whom have been there for a short period of time.

"It is felt amongst those who are affected that we are being discriminated against for being there a long time.

"SSE recently announced they are expecting profits of £1.5billion, then go and do this to all their long-term fully committed staff. Staff who have shown loyalty for so many years.

"This will not help people paying their bills, which is already a struggle for most and many have their mortgages based on their current salary, which could mean they cannot afford to keep up the repayments."

When asked about the concerns, SSE said some employees had been paid above the salary range, and discussion had been ongoing with trade unions.

A spokesman for SSE said: "SSE has been working together with the Trade Unions to identify a group of employees that historically have been paid above the salary range for the roles they are carrying out.

"A joint agreement is in place for these staff members including three-year protection on their current salary and a buy-out option.

"What this means for staff who opt for pay protection is that none of the affected employees will see their salary reduction for a minimum of three years.

"SSE is also looking at options for retraining staff in their area of work.

"This was not a decision taken lightly by SSE and the Trade Unions, but it is being handled with sensitivity and respect and is ultimately about treating all staff fairly and consistently to ensure equality legislation is met."

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News Bites

Bite attack charge

A MAN has been charged after an incident in a Basingstoke bar which saw a man's fingertips bitten off.

The 48-year-old victim was at Poison Bar in the early hours of November 17 when the clash occurred.

Police have charged a 28-year-old London man with wounding with intent. He will appear at Basingstoke Magistrates Court on Tuesday.

No further action is being taken against a 19-year-old Basingstoke man who was also arrested in connection with the incident.

See anything?

POLICE are appealing for witnesses after electrical items and a 55in television were stolen from a house in London Road, Old Basing last week.

The burglary happened between 7.15am and 6.30pm on February 12.

PC Alex Hall said: "This burglary occurred during the day on a busy road. Did you see any suspicious vehicles on the A30? Did you see anyone carrying a large TV?

"Has anyone tried to sell you anything in odd circumstances."

Call 101 with information.

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or email **news@basingstokeobserver.co.uk**

Having a laugh and getting healthy with Bramley WI Lite

• Women from the Bramley WI Lite enjoy a spot of laughter yoga

BRAMLEY'S WI Lite enjoyed their first meeting of the year this month, taking part in Laughter Yoga.

The unique activity, led by Jannine Muirhead, saw 30 members combine laughter exercises with strategic breathing.

Laughter Yoga is a unique technique devised in India by Dr Madan Kataria, whereby you learn to 'laugh for no reason'.

It is a combination of laughter exercises with yogic breathing.

Through it you increase the amount of oxygen in your body, resulting in you feeling healthier.

As a result, many of the participants were left in fits of genuine laughter.

WI Lite branch president Anne Grant said: "I really didn't know what to expect from the evening; probably more along the lines of yoga than laughter.

"I have to say though it was a fun evening and you definitely came away feeling rejuvenated and smiling!"

The group were founded in 2007, and meet once a month. For more information, visit www.bramleywilite.com.

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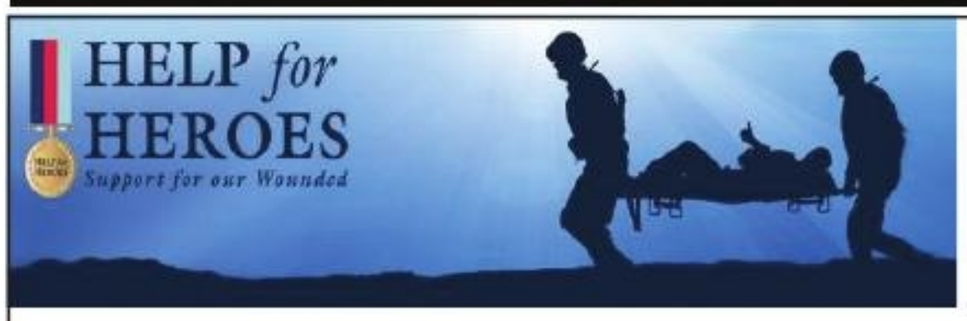

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Thug's attack on woman was 'racially aggravated'

A WOMAN was barged to the floor and abused in what police suspect was a racially aggravated attack in Basingstoke.

The 45-year-old victim was walking home along a footpath at Wessex Close, near the Salvation Army building, at around 10pm on January 25.

The woman gave way to people heading in the opposite direction, when one of the group, a white man, barged her over.

After intimidating and throwing abuse at her, he heard her accent and his abuse became racially-motivated.

Despite the ordeal, the victim was unhurt.

A woman was also with the man, but tried to calm him and was not involved in the offence.

She may be local to the area as an elderly man who arrived from the Culver Road end of the footpath seemed to know her.

The suspect is described as being in his mid 20s, of slim to medium build and just under 6ft in height.

He was clean shaven, and had light brown hair, which was cut close around the sides of his head.

He was wearing a light olive-green waist length jacket. The woman with him is also in her mid 20s, slim and about 5ft 6ins tall. She had shoulder length black hair with a fringe.

By **James Booker**
news@basingstokeobserver.co.uk

She was 'smart looking', with visible eye make up, and was wearing a shiny or glossy black coat which was worn above her knee and knee high boots.

She was carrying a cigarette.

Anyone with any information or who may have been in the area at the time, including the elderly man who spoke to the woman on the footpath, is asked to contact PC Dawn Jenks at Basingstoke police station on 101 or via the website: www.hampshire.police.uk/internet/contact/message_officer.htm.

You can ring Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111, or visit www.crimestoppers-uk.org where information can be left anonymously. Minicom users should call 01962 875000.

Hook man assaulted

POLICE are appealing for witnesses after a man was assaulted when he stopped to check on the welfare of another driver.

The incident occurred between 1.30am and 1.50am on February 2 on the A33 at Sherfield-on-Loddon.

The victim, a 30-year-old Hook man, suffered an injury to his face that required hospital treatment.

Detective Constable Ben Lee from Basingstoke police station said: "I would like to speak to anyone who witnessed this incident.

"I'd specifically like to speak to the occupants of a taxi and a dark coloured BMW which were overtaken by a black VW Polo shortly before passing Sherfield School."

A 20-year-old Basingstoke man has been charged with assault and driving a motor vehicle dangerously.

He is due to appear at Winchester Crown Court on Wednesday.

Anyone with information about the incident is asked to contact Det Con Lee at Basingstoke police station by phoning 101.

Do you have a story to share with our readers?

Contact the Newsdesk on **01235 516930**

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'Stoke author's book seeing the capital

A BASINGSTOKE author has seen her book travel across the London Underground and Overground networks for free, as part of the 'Books on the Underground' project.

Alison Williams' book 'The Black Hours' began its trip around the capital on January 6, waiting to be read by users of the District Line and Overground service.

The project sees a number of books left on underground trains for people to read and return when they are finished.

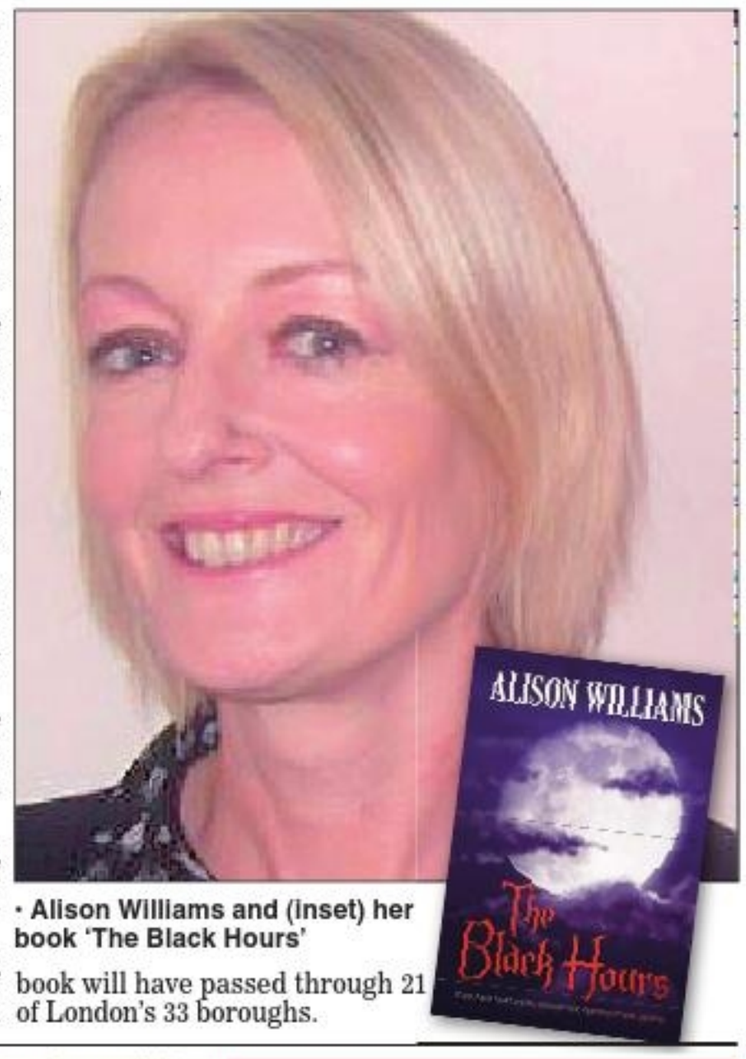
Alison, who lives in Hatch Warren, said: "The idea behind 'Books on the Underground' is to think of it as a local library, but without the late fees.

"Travellers are encouraged to enjoy the book, but also to remember to return it to the underground or overground to enable others to enjoy it.

"'The Black Hours' is a tale of persecution, superstition, religious fundamentalism, hate and love set in the 17th century.

"It's probably just the right subject matter to take your mind off travelling on the tube during rush hour!"

The book travelling on the District Line will have been to a total of 60 stations, while the overground book will have passed through 21 of London's 33 boroughs.



• Alison Williams and (inset) her book 'The Black Hours'

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Over 500 police jobs cut by county's force

X-citing times ahead for lucky Christine!

BORDON Country Market has announced that bride-to-be Christine Newland is the latest winner of their X-citing Times competition.

The monthly competition, launched last year, offers one lucky shopper a cash prize of £500 after having their picture taken in front of the giant X in the Country Market store.

Each customer who takes part holds up a numbered sign to indicate the number of days left until the anticipated unveiling of the new Country Market building.

Christine said: "This is truly amazing; I never expected to win for even a minute.

"I am getting married in May and the £500 will definitely help towards the wedding!

"My family and I regularly shop at Country Market and I cannot wait for the new building to open."

Dean Marshall, Partner of Country Market, said: "We love hosting this competition; it really is a great way to show our thanks to all of our loyal shoppers who have supported us over the years.

"Congratulations to Christine, and I offer her all the best for her upcoming wedding.

"We have many great activities and competitions here at Country Market, and this is the year that our building will finally be open to the public after the tragic fire back in 2010.

"We are all very excited to see what the future will bring."

HAMPSHIRE Constabulary have cut over 500 police positions in the latest wave of cuts to hit the force.

The re-shaping, aimed at saving a further £25million by 2017, will see 535 officers lose their jobs.

The force have already made cuts of £55million since 2010.

Chief constable Andy Marsh said there had been 'no choice' in the decision.

"Saving another £25million means that we have no choice but to make further cuts.

"With fewer people, we cannot just keep piling the pressure onto a stretched frontline.

"That is why we have fundamentally reviewed what we do, how we do it and what we should not be doing when there is no risk to the public or others are better placed to help."

The county's Police and Crime Commissioner, Simon Hayes, added: ""The facts now show that we have no choice but to plan for fewer officers and staff, but unlike some other areas of the country, neighbourhood policing will be prioritised with dedicated resource.

"This is tangible evidence that the constabulary now understands that its job is to prevent crime and deliver for victims and that can only be good for public confidence."

By **James Booker**
news@basingstokeobserver.co.uk

The number of the county's PCSOs, 333, will stay the same.

There will also be additional focus on rural policing, while vulnerable children and adults will get more protection.

A Resolution Centre is being trialled, whereby experienced police officers are being placed in the force's call centre to ensure better prioritisation of public calls the right deployment of resources.

It is hoped this will cut police dispatched per year from a quarter of a million to 200,000 annually.

However, emergency calls will be responded to as normal.

Ch Supt Jason Hogg, who will lead on Neighbourhoods and Prevention, said: "Today's neighbourhood police officers are too often called on to perform other tasks, taking them away from the communities that they serve for prolonged periods.

"This hardly helps us to build trust and so we will end this practice by making sure that they are there when communities need them.

"We have looked carefully at how we can deliver the best service for the public."

News Bites

Man in hospital

FOUR people from Basingstoke have been charged after a 50-year-old man was hospitalised with facial injuries last week.

The victim suffered the injuries when he was assaulted at a house in Pentland Close, Basingstoke, on February 11.

Three men, aged 30, 33 and 52, appeared at Basingstoke Magistrates Court on Friday charged with wounding with intent and possession of an offensive weapon. A 27-year-old woman also appeared in court on the same charges.

A 32-year-old man from Basingstoke has also been arrested on suspicion of causing grievous bodily harm.

Officers are trying to establish if the incident is linked to a disturbance on Vyne Road earlier that evening.

Detective Constable Ben Thomas said: "Did you see or hear anything suspicious at Pentland Close or in Vyne Road?"

In it to win it

ST Michael's Hospice has announced the results of its lottery draw from February 14.

Hook ticket 78764 takes first prize of £1,000, while £100 goes to second-place ticket 76155 of Pamber Heath.

Whitchurch ticket 39588 claims third prize of £50, and 77333 of Basingstoke takes home fourth prize of £20.

Sixteen runner-up prizes of £5 are awarded to tickets 04512, 12549, 24779, 25533, 26355, 29078, 29423, 34283, 39321, 46008, 48295, 59896, 67090, 68111, 72086 and 95258.

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Entertainment

Welcome to our Entertainments page where we are showcasing all that is good in local entertainment ranging from professional to amateur acts.

If you would like your event considered for publication please contact reporter Adam Flinn at adam@taylornewspapers.co.uk or telephone 01235 516933

Hopelessly Devoted...

Anton in town!

STRICTLY Come Dancing star Anton Du Beke is in Basingstoke on Saturday, as he brings his new tour 'Ballroom to Broadway' to The Anvil.

Featuring music from Cole Porter, George Gershwin and Andrew Lloyd Webber, the show comprises new choreography with dazzling costumes to recreate the atmosphere of Broadway.

Two shows take place on Saturday, at 3pm and 7.45pm. For more details, go to www.anvilarts.org.uk.

Folk and reggae

THE Lounge Bar in Alton is host to a folk and reggae night tomorrow evening, with four live bands making up the schedule.

Headline act Jake and The Jellyfish are supported by Shark's Don't Sleep, Burning Idols and Mocara, as part of the bar's regular series of entertainment through February.

For more information, go to www.facebook.com/loungebaralton.

By **Adam Flinn**

adam@taylornewspapers.co.uk

KATE Tempest's second play Hopelessly Devoted is staged at the Bordon Phoenix next Thursday, telling the story of Chess, a prisoner with a powerful voice.

Chess is serving a lengthy sentence when a producer, looking for a reason to love music again, discovers her amazing singing voice.

Tempest's work follows on from her highly successful debut play 'Wasted', and 'Hopelessly Devoted' is now embarking on a nationwide tour following its critically acclaimed premiere last year.

Show director James Grieve said: "I'm a huge fan of Kate, she's one of the most exciting artists working in the country.

"As a theatre director I went to watch Kate's gigs, and the way she held an audience on her own for over an hour, I thought if we could bottle that into a theatre show, that would be amazing.

"Eventually I persuaded her to have a go at writing a play, which turned out to be 'Wasted' and toured it at 100 different places, and as a result we commissioned 'Hopelessly Devoted'.

"Kate's got this incredible ability to write very beautiful, powerful and accessible stories that anybody can relate to, and her characters are instantly recognisable."

The production features live music while retaining its identity as a stage play, something that James doesn't direct very often.

He added: "I'm not a fan of traditional musicals, but I'm a huge music fan, so it's trying to find that crossover and try to get a bit more of the gig atmosphere into the theatre.

"I hope that people coming along will feel like they've been to a gig as much as they've been to a story told on stage."

Next Thursday's show starts at 7.30pm, and tickets cost £10. To book in advance, call the box office on 01420 472664 or go to www.phoenixarts.co.uk.

• Chess discovers music while in prison in 'Hopelessly Devoted', coming to the Bordon Phoenix next week

Creepy crawlies

CREEPY crawlies are taking over the Basingstoke Discovery Centre tomorrow morning, with three insect workshops for children led by a retired zoo-keeper.

A Chile Rose Tarantula, Giant Millipede and Giant Land Snails are some of the insects making an appearance, with children able to learn more about how the creatures survive in the wild.

Sessions last for 45 minutes, and start from 9.30am. For more information, go to www.hants.gov.uk/bsdc.

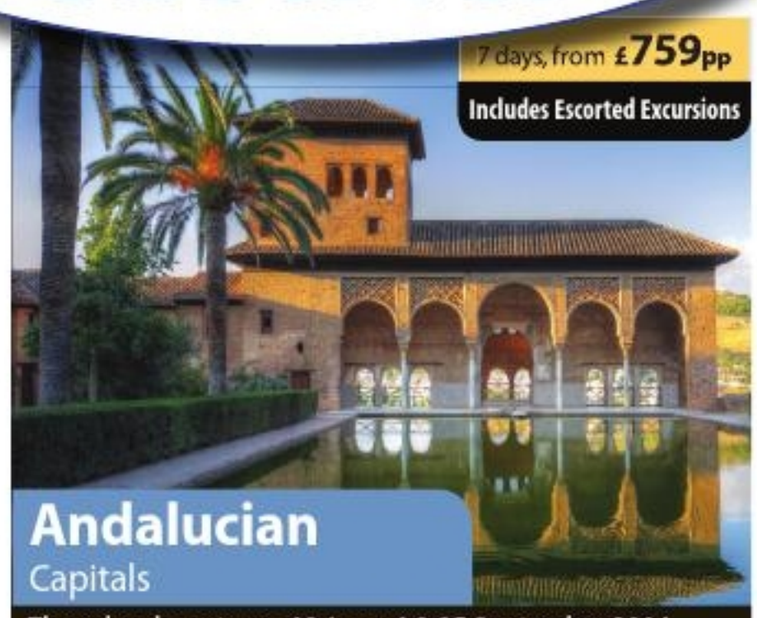
Kirk and Dave

SINGER-SONGWRITERS Kirk Brandon and Dave Sharp come to The Railway in Winchester on Saturday.

Dave was known for his career with The Alarm, while Kirk formerly played with '80s rock giants Spear of Destiny. Go to www.railwaylive.co.uk for further details about the show.

Basingstoke Observer

Reader Travel



Andalucian Capitals

Thursday departures, 12 June, 4 & 25 September 2014
From Gatwick airport

Just across the Strait of Gibraltar from Morocco, Andalucia is simply one of the most beautiful and unspoilt corners of Europe. Its stunning cities are steeped in history with a culture influenced by the Moors and the Romans which is enriched by the greatly contrasting surrounding landscape.

- Return flight from Gatwick airport to Malaga†
- Airport taxes & return transfer from the airport to your hotel
- 6 nights stay at the 4 star Hotel Antequera Golf, Antequera with dinner & breakfast
- A guided tour of the Great Mosque of Cordoba (Mezquita)
- Admission to the Alhambra Palace & the Generalife in Granada
- Includes 3 excursions; to Cordoba, Granada & Seville

† We have included a reasonable budget for your flights. Should the cost of these fall below or rise above this amount we will amend the holiday cost to reflect these changes and therefore the price may increase or decrease accordingly. The final price will be confirmed at the time of booking. The advertised price is correct as of 27 December 2013 and is based upon departure from Gatwick airport on 12 June 2014.

Barcelona and Catalonia

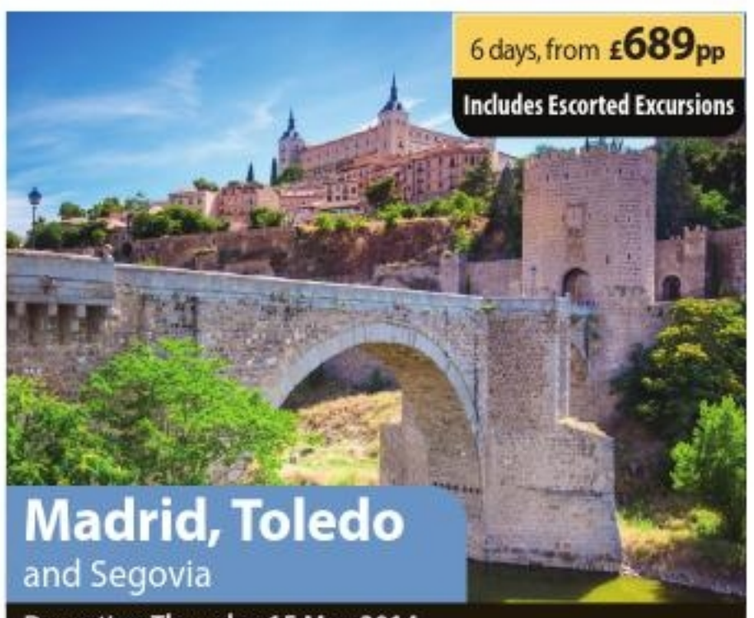
Departing Wednesday 14 May 2014
From Gatwick airport

From Gothic to Gaudi, the ramblas to the champlas, in Barcelona there is artistry on every street corner. We'll take you to Montserrat and the Black Madonna, Figueres and the Dali Museum, La Garriotxa with its volcanic gorges, and eleventh century Besalú with its Jewish quarter. All this, and you've still got time to stroll on the beach at Calella on the Costa Brava, visit a wine cava, and the markets at La Boqueria, or just relax in 4-star style.

Price includes:

- Return flight from Gatwick airport to Barcelona††
- Airport taxes and return transfer from the airport to your hotel
- 7 nights stay in 4 star Hotel Les Palmeres, Calella with dinner & breakfast
- Includes 3 full day excursions; to Barcelona including guided walking tour of the old town, Montserrat and Figueres with admission to the Dali Museum

†† We have included a reasonable budget for your flights. Should the cost of these fall below or rise above this amount we will amend the holiday cost to reflect these changes and therefore the price may increase or decrease accordingly. The final price will be confirmed at the time of booking. The advertised price is correct as of 27 December 2013.



Madrid, Toledo and Segovia

Departing Thursday 15 May 2014
From Gatwick airport

Discover a warm welcome in magnificent Madrid with its wonderful collections of art, stunning architecture and impeccable parks and gardens. Add to the mix a feast of fine eateries and you have a holiday to remember!

Price includes:

- Return flight from Gatwick airport to Madrid†††
- Airport taxes and return transfer from the airport to your hotel
- 5 nights stay at the 3 star Hotel Ganivet, Madrid,with breakfast
- Three buffet dinners
- Included panoramic coach tour and a guided walking tour of the historical centre of Madrid
- Included excursions to Toledo and Segovia
- Free time in Madrid

††† We have included a reasonable budget for your flights. Should the cost of these fall below or rise above this amount we will amend the holiday cost to reflect these changes and therefore the price may increase or decrease accordingly. The final price will be confirmed at the time of booking. The advertised price is correct as of 27 December 2013.

For more information or to book, please call:
01539 751252 quote BOB
or visit: **www.basingstokeobserver.reader.travel**

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MON-FRI 8.30-19.30
SAT 8.45-15.30
SUN 10.00 - 15.00

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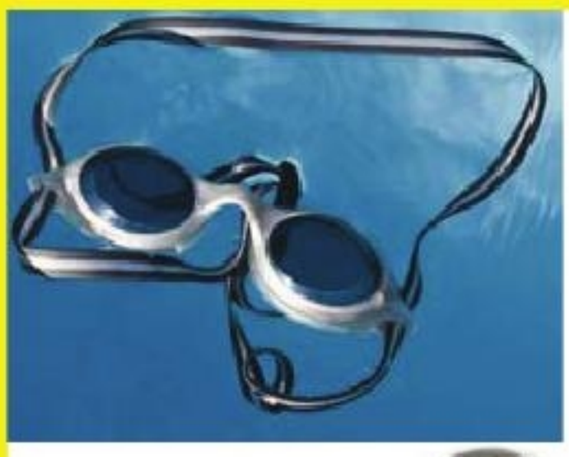

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Entertainment

Welcome to our Entertainments page where we are showcasing all that is good in local entertainment ranging from professional to amateur acts.

If you would like your event considered for publication please contact reporter Adam Flinn at adam@taylornewspapers.co.uk or telephone 01235 516933

The best of both of us

By **Adam Flinn**
adam@taylornewspapers.co.uk

FOLK musicians Éamonn Coyne and Kris Drever come to Basingstoke's Forge theatre on Saturday, following the release of their critically acclaimed album 'Storymap' last year.

Éamonn and Kris met through the vibrant Edinburgh music scene, and first played together around eight years ago.

Since then, and in between their busy schedules working with other bands and musicians, the pair have continued to work together and release new material.

'Storymap' features a host of their musical friends, including Eliza Carthy, Simon Bradley, Megan Henderson and Calum McIntyre to name a few.

Éamonn's banjo-playing and tenor guitar, twinned with Kris' guitar and mandolin skills, has led to the album becoming increasingly popular.

"The reaction has been fantastic," said Éamonn. "People really like it, and lots of the tracks have been played and played."

• Kris Drever (left) and Éamonn Coyne come to The Forge on Saturday

Saturday's show sees Éamonn and Kris perform from 'Storymap' and their first collaboration 'Honk Toot Suite', as well as their own solo work.

Éamonn added: "We tend to do lots of stuff, we're not specific to one album.

"We have a repertoire of about two hours to work from, so if you do an hour and a half show, you can only get through some of the stuff.

"We'll choose whatever we think the show requires, and just whatever we think about really.

"You basically get the best of the two of us, that's the idea. People who've come to the show before know what to expect."

Éamonn's solo album 'Through the Round Window' was released in 2002, while Kris' two releases are the 2006 album 'Black Water' and the 2010 record 'Mark the Hard Earth'.

The pair will combine tracks from these as well as their two albums recorded together, in what promises to be an entertaining show.

Tickets cost £15.50 for an 8pm start. For more information, go to www.anvilarts.org.uk or call 01256 844244.

Sherlock Holmes

ROGER Llewellyn returns to Basingstoke in his role of Sherlock Holmes, for his new investigation 'The Last Act'.

Set in 1916 and drawn from two year's in retirement following the funeral of Dr Watson, Sherlock returns to Baker Street to confront the most complex case of all – his own psyche.

Wednesday's show begins at 7.30pm, and takes place at The Haymarket. For more details, go to www.anvilarts.org.uk.

Expressive art

THE Proteus Creation Space is host to an art exhibition from Monday, featuring the work of Deborah Hall in Emotion Expressed.

Deborah's work is derived from keen observation and inner feelings, which she has represented through her abstract and self-portraiture works.

The exhibition runs until March 6. Go to www.proteustheatre.com for more information.

Spirit of the Mods

CLASSIC songs from the '60s and '70s are on the bill at Central Studio on Saturday, as The Mods encapsulate the music of the era.

Tracks from The Who, The Beatles, The Kinks and numerous others will be performed during the evening.

It starts at 8pm. Go to www.centralstudio.co.uk for further details.

Vintage and craft fair to return

DOLLY'S Vintage and Craft Fair returns to Old Basing Village Hall on Sunday, with a range of clothing, art and gifts on offer for visitors to buy.

The fair is raising money for baby charity Tommy's, and is part of a regular series of vintage events that take place during the year.

It will run from 11am until 3pm. For more information, go to www.dollysvintage.co.uk.

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14/02/2014 OVERTON Total views: 6 Price: £10.00

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FIGURINES
Various myth & magic figurines (dragons) by Tudor Mint
14/02/2014 OAKLEY Total views: 7 Price: £20.00

COLLECTABLE RADIO
VIDOR LADY ELIZEBETH PORTABLE VALVE RADIO
14/02/2014 OVERTON Total views: 6 Price: £25.00

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Entertainment

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The Forge
Thursday 27 February 2014 8pm
WHERE IS MY MIND?
Jon Robbins

20 February, 7:45pm
The Anvil
HEROES AND SUPERHEROES
Heroes both historical and fictitious as well as the superheroes of comics remain a mine of inspiration for Hollywood and some of the best big screen adventures ever.
The music includes The Magnificent Seven, Saving Private Ryan and Apollo 13.
01256 844244 www.anvilarts.org.uk

21 February, 7:45pm
The Anvil
THE FRANK AND ELLA SHOW
Jacqui Dankworth and Todd Gordon
01256 844244 www.anvilarts.org.uk

22 February, 8pm
Central Studio Queen Mary's College
THE MODS
Expect classics from the 60s and early 70s that encapsulate the true essence of Mod music and it's evolution through the late 60's summer of love into the heavier 70s. The Who, Small Faces, The Kinks, Toots and The Maytals, Desmond Dekker, Spencer Davis, Stevie Winwood, The Stones, The Beatles, Booker T and The MG's, Manfredd Mann, Yardbirds, The Animals...this list could be endless.
www.centralstudio.co.uk

26 February, 7:29pm
The Haymarket
SHERLOCK HOLMES THE LAST ACT
The world's greatest fictional detective confronts the most complex case of all – his own psyche.
Fine wit, broad humour, high drama – a touch of pathos - 'elementary' aspects of this original and entertaining solo play.
01256 844244
www.anvilarts.org.uk

27 February, 8pm
The Forge
JOHN ROBINS WHERE IS MY MIND?
Alter egos, ailments, love, nostalgia, indie-nights and belly-laughs. Enjoy an hour full of raucous stand-up for anyone who's tried to live in the moment, only to realise that the moment happened over a decade ago.
01256 844244 www.anvilarts.org.uk

28 February, 7:30pm
Central Studio Queen Mary's College
WOYZECK
Tickets: £10.50 full | £9.50 concessions | £6.00 students & children
Setamidst the backdrop of WW1, Woyzeck is a startling depiction of the lowly soldier plagued by visions of the apocalypse and plunged into homicidal lunacy by the world around him.
Fusing gothic storytelling, puppetry, song and a spine chilling sound track, this brand new adaptation based on the play by Georg Buchner takes the audience into a world that is disturbingly atmospheric, heart breakingly poignant, darkly comic and delightfully interactive.
www.centralstudio.co.uk

1 March, 11am
Central Studio, Queen Mary's College
A BIRD IN YOUR EAR
Snail Tails' thoroughly original and highly participatory production that's sometimes moral, sometimes delightfully absurd, but always colourful, curious and fun.
Tickets: £6 full | £5 children
01256 418318 www.centralstudio.co.uk

1 March, 7:30pm
Central Studio Queen Mary's College
THE TABLE
Moses is a cantankerous 2 foot high puppet, with a cardboard head, who lives on a table. And he's got a problem. All he ever gets asked to perform is fairy tales or children's birthday parties, and he's fed up with it. He's an artist! He's a serious puppet! So tonight, for one show only, the table is his and he is going to perform an epic story. The final 12 hours of the life of Moses, in real time, on his table.
Tickets £12 full | £10 concessions | £8.00 students and children.
www.centralstudio.co.uk 01256 418318

1 March, 5pm
Farnham Maltings Association.
THE MET: LIVE IN HD BORODIN: PRINCE IGOR
This new production, marking director Dmitri Tcherniakov's Met debut, is a new version constructed by him in collaboration with conductor Gianandrea Noseda and taken from all of Borodin's known music and orchestrations.
http://Metopera.org/uk

1 March, 7:45pm
The Anvil
BETH NIELSEN CHAPMAN
£24.50 (includes £1 booking fee)
01256 844244 www.anvilarts.org.uk

1 March - 2 March
The Haymarket
CHARLIE AND LOLA'S EXTREMELY NEW PLAY
Saturday 11am, 1.30pm and 4pm
Sunday 11am and 1.30pm
Charlie and Lola are completely excited to be back on stage and this time they're bringing along Sizzles the Dog!
£13 (includes £1 booking fee)
01256 844244 www.anvilarts.org.uk

1 March, 6pm - 9pm
Popley, Basingstoke
FAMILY QUIZ NIGHT
Family Quiz Night
Saturday 1st March
Popley Spotlight Centre in Popley, Basingstoke.
6pm to 9pm.
ALL WELCOME, NIBBLES PROVIDED.
Raffle too, can you donate any prizes?
Book a table now 01256325420
£6 a table.
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5 March, 7:45pm
The Anvil
VIENNA TONKÜNSTLER ORCHESTRA
The evening begins with Kodály's Dances of Galánta. The composer was an indefatigable collector of folk songs and dances from all over Eastern Europe. His sequence of dances from the region of Galánta in present day Slovakia is colourful and beautifully orchestrated.
01256 844244 www.anvilarts.org.uk

7 March - 8 March
The Anvil
THE MOSCOW STATE CIRCUS
Superstar clowns Pavlik and Klava invite the audience to a wondrous and mysterious place. As the loveable buffoons reminisce about past times in one of the most famous cities on earth they are surrounded by a multitude of flying, back flipping, juggling and roller skating performers.
01256 844244 www.anvilarts.org.uk

8 March, 7:30pm
The Forge
MAWKIN
Forged out of the electric partnership of brothers Jamie and David Delarre, Mawkin are a concoction of brilliantly inventive musicianship and uninhibited exuberance.
01256 844244 www.anvilarts.org.uk

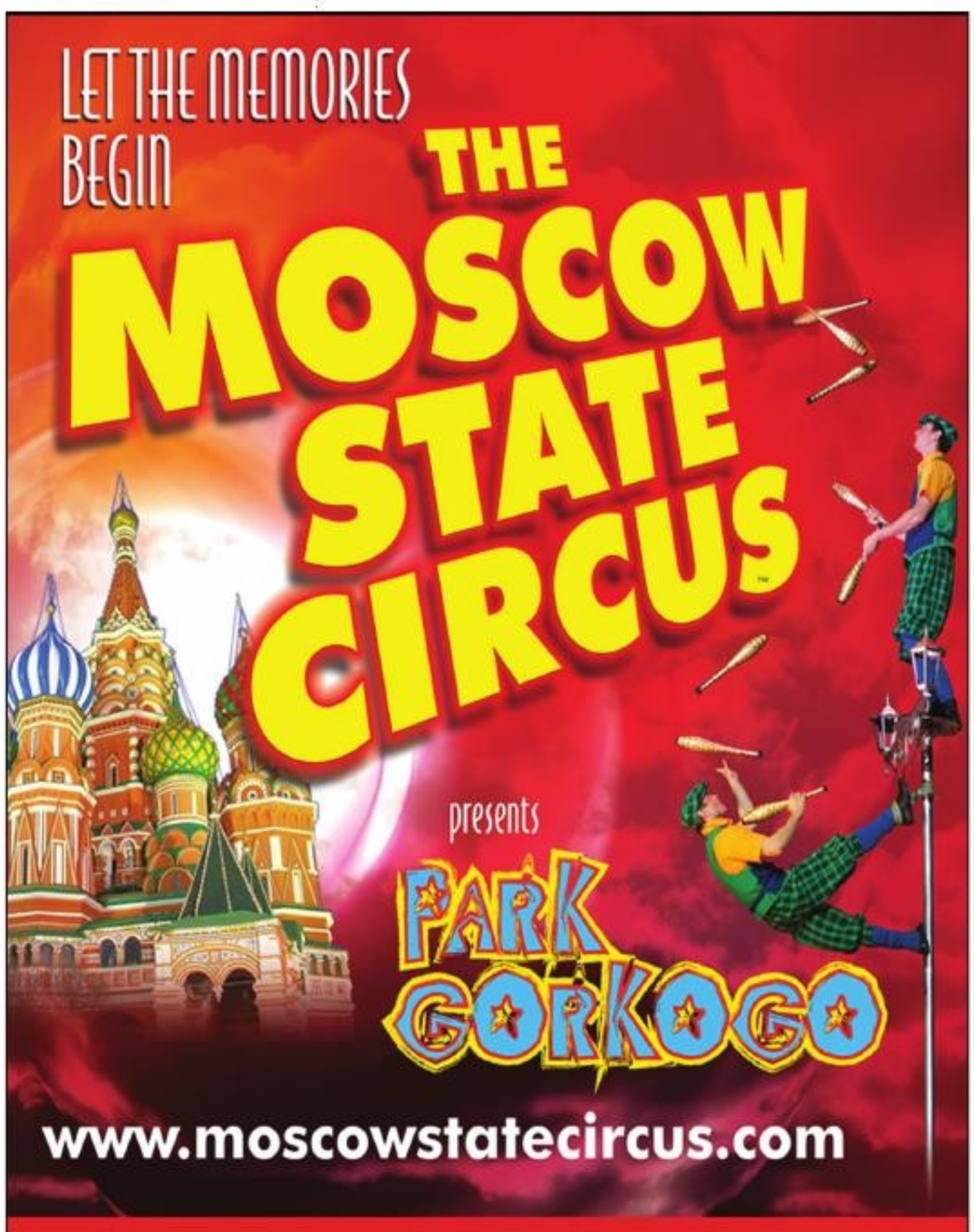
9 March, 7:30pm
The Anvil
THE TENORS
The music of Clifton Murray, Victor Micallef, Remigio Pereira and Fraser Walters is rich and soulful with powerful anthems and beautiful melodies, sung not only in English and French, but also in Spanish and Italian, reflecting their multicultural heritage.
01256 844244 www.anvilarts.org.uk

12 March, 7:30pm
The Haymarket
EMILY: THE MAKING OF A MILITANT SUFFRAGETTE
Emily Wilding Davison was an extraordinary woman pushed to extraordinary deeds. She died under the galloping hooves of King George's Derby horse in 1913. She was campaigning for what she believed in. This is the story of all her life and the events that led to her untimely end.
01256 844244 www.anvilarts.org.uk

14 March, 7:30pm
Central Studio Queen Mary's College
THINGUMAJIG THEATRE PRESENTS A NOVEMBER DAY
a tale about two men, a dog and a war between them. Marking the centenary of the First World War, this play explores the timely question of how we remember.
www.centralstudio.co.uk 01256 418318

16 March
The Raven Hotel, Hook
PSYCHIC FAYRE
With specially selected unique readers/Holistic Therapists and stall holders. Come along for a welcoming and Mystical atmosphere.
Admission £2.00
7939370065

25 March, 7:30pm - 9pm
Church Cottage, Basingstoke
BASINGSTOKE HERITAGE SOCIETY ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING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Puzzles

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Sudoku

Place a number from 1 to 9 in each empty cell so that each 3x3 block, column, and full row includes each of the numbers from 1 to 9 only once. **EASY/MEDIUM/HARD**

	8			5	1			4
		6			4		3	7
	1	2	9			8		
2	5	8	3	6				
	7						9	
				4	2	6	8	5
		1			7	5	6	
3	6		2			4		
9			1	3			7	

	9					5	8	
		3	4	8				
	6		9			1	2	
			5			7		
7		1				2		9
		6			9			
	1	8			5		7	
				9	8	4		
	7	4					9	

	7		2					1
	5	4			3			2
		3			6	5		
	6	1						
7								3
						8	9	
		2	6			4		
3			1			2	8	
5					7		1	

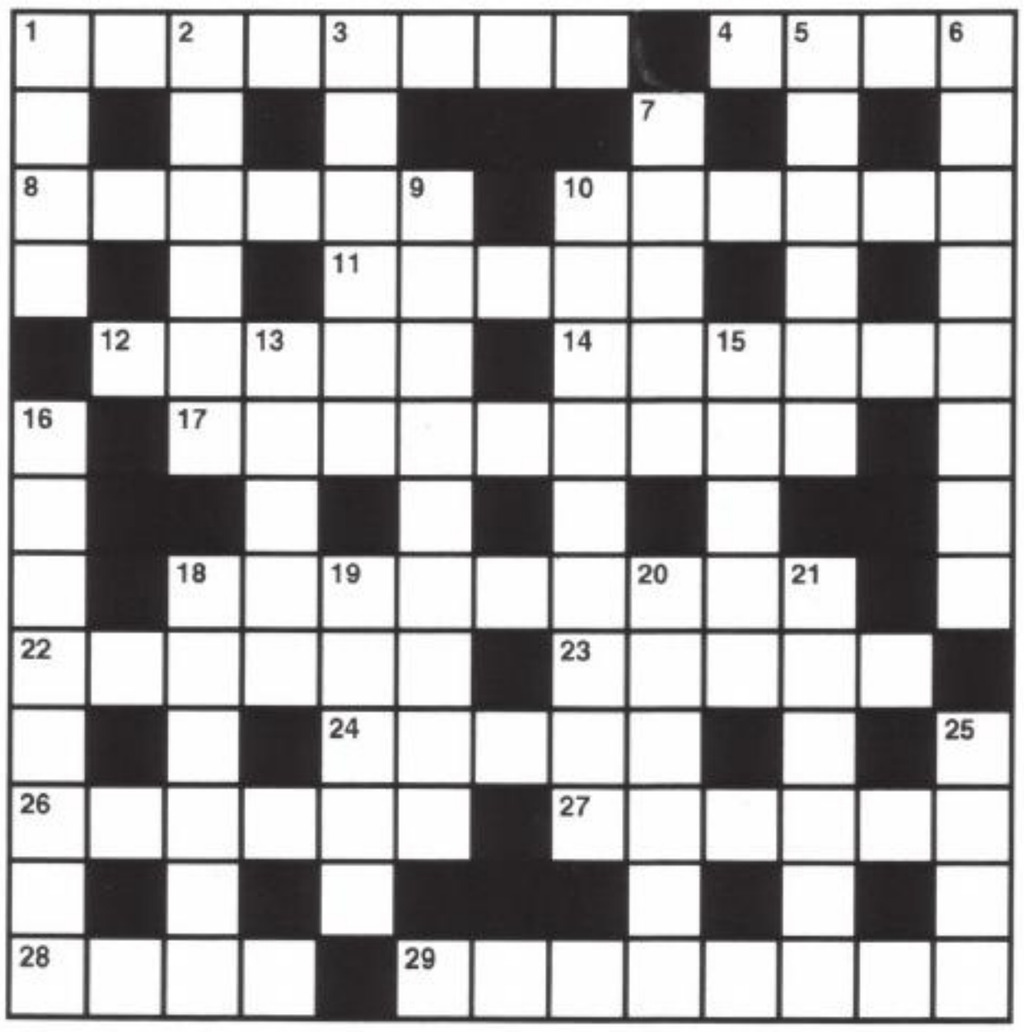
Two speed crossword

Quick Clues Across
1 Pain in the spinal area (8)
4 Group of musicians (4)
8 Very small (6)
10 Thwarts (6)
11 Combine (5)
12 Colloquial language (5)
14 Infallible guide (6)
17 Somnambulate (9)
18 Following closely (9)
22 Property (6)
27 Displeasure (5)
24 Salvers (5)
26 Insect that preys on others (6)
27 Twine (6)
28 Bird's home (4)
29 Makes steady (8)

Quick Clues Down
1 Collide (4)
2 Waterways (6)
3 Bring into harmony (6)
5 Onslaught (6)
6 Courses served at end of meals (8)
7 Musical drama (5)
9 Causes (9)
10 Those who hide to obtain free passage (9)
13 Greek letter (5)
15 By the side of (5)
16 Boatman (8)
18 Raised platforms (6)
19 Garret (5)
20 Put in gradually (6)
21 Exceptional intellectual ability (6)
25 Grows old (4)

Cryptic Clues Across
1 Garment in which Lois, upset, came round (8)
4 The extent of a Middle East seaport? (4)
8 Mac and Ian get together quite mad (6)
10 They figure largely in string bands (6)
11 He's in a cap - how common! (5)
12 Prophet needs a shoe repaired (5)
14 A gypsy in the army? No (6)
17 Communist compiler is a real dog (3,6)
18 These stories have real logic (9)
22 One who goes via the south gets on (6)
23 Brings up behind? (5)
24 Not very much and rather stale (5)
26 The Italian's hidden somewhere in the shed for protection (6)
27 Attention, donkey. You've deserved it (6)
28 Palmy appointment (4)
29 They should produce a good yarn (8)

Cryptic Clues Down
1 People are often intent on getting here (4)
2 There's no term arrangement for the tutor (6)
3 Arranged intervals (for astronauts?) (6)
5 It's got a neck (6)
6 He's certainly willing to try (8)
7 Drank heavily, up at headquarters (5)
9 Ten get chased round and punished (9)
10 There's an animal in the orchestra (4-5)
13 Beastly creatures likely to get in a wax (5)
15 Agencies in the same diagram (5)
16 Calmly made up (8)
18 His work is a real picture (6)
19 Hangs loosely with three pounds so out (5)
20 Keep it near maybe (6)
21 Fawn is sound as a bell at heart (6)
25 Does it produce poems? (4)



Scribble space

Last week's solutions

9	2	1	6	5	7	3	4	8
4	8	5	1	9	3	2	6	7
7	3	6	4	2	8	9	5	1
8	9	7	2	1	6	4	3	5
5	6	2	8	3	4	7	1	9
3	1	4	5	7	9	6	8	2
2	5	3	9	4	1	8	7	6
6	7	9	3	8	5	1	2	4
1	4	8	7	6	2	5	9	3

6	5	9	2	4	3	8	1	7
3	7	4	1	9	8	2	5	6
1	2	8	7	5	6	3	4	9
9	3	1	6	7	5	4	2	8
8	4	2	3	1	9	7	6	5
7	6	5	8	2	4	1	9	3
4	9	7	5	8	1	6	3	2
5	8	3	4	6	2	9	7	1
2	1	6	9	3	7	5	8	4

4	9	7	8	5	1	2	6	3
1	3	6	9	2	7	5	4	8
2	5	8	6	4	3	7	9	1
7	6	3	1	9	8	4	2	5
9	1	4	2	3	5	8	7	6
8	2	5	4	7	6	3	1	9
6	4	1	5	8	2	9	3	7
3	8	9	7	1	4	6	5	2
5	7	2	3	6	9	1	8	4

Quick Crossword
Across: 4 Affirm 8 Section 9 Serves 10 Attendant 11 Urge 13 Teeth 14 Scatter 16 Deports 18 Germs 19 Anon 21 Condiment 22 Sandal 23 Density 24 Nasser
Down: 1 Gentlemen 2 Attention 3 Bonds 5 Feet 6 Invert 7 Master 9 Snack 11 Uttermost 12 Germinate 15 Stool 16 Damson 17 Points 20 Adder 21 Care

Cryptic Crossword
Across: 4 Obtuse 8 Allayed 9 Italic 10 Locksmith 11 Beds 13 Groom 14 Umpires 16 Contain 18 Flout 19 Emus 21 Fireworks 22 Ensued 23 Herring 24 Tidier
Down: 1 Elbow room 2 Jackboots 3 Seems 5 Bath 6 Uglier 7 Excess 9 Items 11 Billboard 12 Debunking 15 Livid 16 Cement 17 Nursed 20 Rebel 21 Fete

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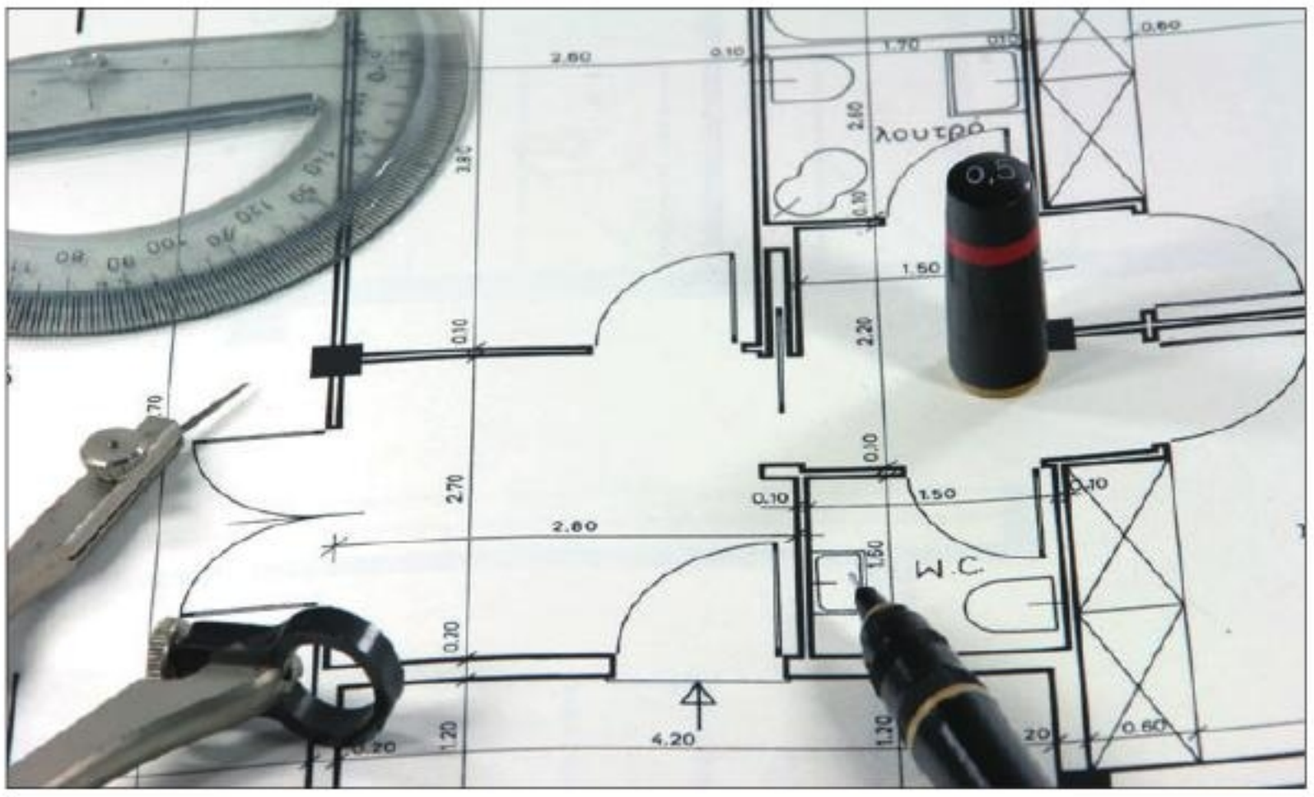

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WIN tickets to the Ideal Home Show for you and a friend

THIS March, the award winning Ideal Home Show will return for its 106th year and we are offering five lucky readers the chance to go for free!

Closing date: Friday, February 28

Running from 14th – 30th March at London's Earls Court and with seven sections including: Ideal Interiors, Ideal Show Homes, Ideal Gardens, Ideal Home Improvements, Ideal Technology, Ideal Food & Housewares, Ideal Shopping and Ideal Woman this year's show is set to be the biggest and best yet.

Some of the stand outs of the show will be Celebrities Galore - hosted by fabulous celebrity Ambassadors which include; TV presenter and architect George Clarke, gadget expert Suzi Perry, food critic Gregg Wallace, garden expert Diarmuid Gavin, interiors icon Laurence Llewelyn-Bowen, and TV presenter Melinda Messenger as ambassador of Ideal Woman, there will be more live demonstrations and expert advice than the show has ever seen.

The Super Theatre – the celebrity ambassadors will also be taking to the returning Ideal Super Theatre - a purpose-built stage which will host talks and demonstrations from the celebrities and a whole host of other household names including Martin Lewis, Founder and Editor of Moneysavingexpert.com, making it the ultimate place to pick up the tips and tricks to improve your home.

Ideal Show Village - The centre piece of this year's show will see a series of 5 Show Homes, the largest Village to date, built in Earls Court for visitors to explore. The Prince's Foundation for the Built Environment has this year invested in three different homes to suit different markets - first time buyers, families or retired couples:

In addition the Ideal Home Show will also feature a further unique show home:

A breakthrough in housing, the Multi-Generation Home, styled by House Beautiful, is a property that can be taken to site, erected and become habitable within 24 hours. The Generation Home aims to be the answer to the current housing shortage andtailored to suit how families live together today, with multiple generations using the same space for different needs.

So whether you're a domestic goddess or a DIY disaster there's something for everyone!

To win tickets for you and a friend simply answer the following question:

Q: HOW MANY YEARS HAS THE IDEAL HOME SHOW BEEN RUNNING FOR?
IS IT 106 YEARS, 60 YEARS OR 16 YEARS?

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General monthly running costs ie.
Rent and business rates £800-£1200 per month, electric to run the fridges and freezers £200-£320 per month, insurance £80 per month. If they employ some one part-time £480-1400 per month, accountant fees £80-£120 per month.

Tackle shop owners are not making a fortune but love the sport and want you to enjoy fishing as much as they do and will do everything they can to help.
However they have to make a profit to pay their bills to enable them to be there for you the next year so any lost sales to outlets like the internet and garage sellers could be fatal to them in the future so if you have a good, local shop please support it and it will support you and your clubs for years to come.....

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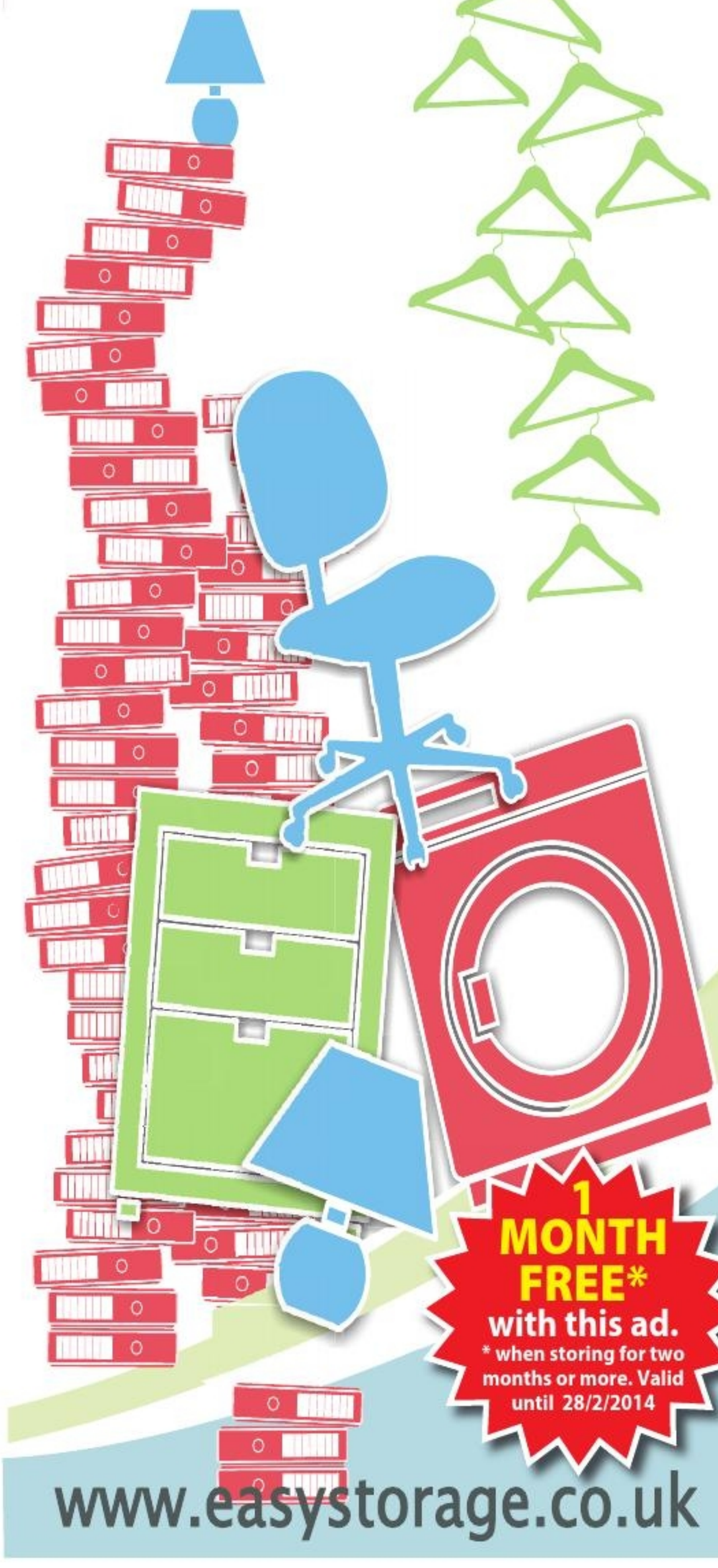

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New Peugeot 308 proves a classy and sophisticated presence

From strength to strength

PEUGEOT'S new 308 continues the French firm's move up market; an initiative recently seen with the 208 and 2008.

With well-balanced proportions, the new car projects a classy and sophisticated presence: the front dominated by the brand's 'floating' front grille and the rear showcasing the three Peugeot (lion) 'claws' drawn by the rear LED lamps.

The 308 has also been on a serious diet, loosing around 140kg compared to its predecessor, leading to significant reductions in emissions - this HDi 92 variant emitting 99 g/km of CO2.

REVIEW: PEUGEOT 308

By **Philip Shoulder**

@writeonmotoring

Step inside and you'll instantly notice a much more sophisticated cabin than before.

There's a similar pod binnacle layout as used in the 208, but here that integration with the rest of the dashboard is more fluid and sleeker.

Build quality sees a marked improvement on the old 308; everything feeling very well screwed together and the sound (or lack of) the doors closing is remarkable.

The new range comprises Access, Active, Allure and Feline models. Even this lower-end Active model gets a 9.7" touch screen infotainment system, incorporating satellite navigation; dual zone air conditioning, 16" alloys; USB input; Bluetooth, DAB radio; Auto lights and rear parking sensors.

An integrated infotainment system impresses with its look, feel and functionality and incorporates satellite navigation.

The majority of switchgear is accessed via intuitive on-screen menus, which keeps the dash uncluttered.

The 308's driving position is good, and the seats are comfortable and supportive.

Front and side visibility is good, but rearward it is hampered by a letter-box-shaped back window and thick C-pillars.

A fair amount of storage space and cubbies can be found in the 308's cabin, although the glove-box and door bins are on the petite side.

Headroom is generous, even on cars equipped with a glass panoramic roof. Leg room scores well, too, but in the rear it's on the tight side, only just managing to accommodate two six-footers front and back.

The boot is decently shaped and sized, at 470 litres. Rear seats fold 60/40, albeit leaving a slight step.

Although modestly powered, the 92 bhp 1.6 litre diesel's 230 Nm of torque allows for good tractability at low revs and ensures you won't be up and down the gearbox every time you encounter a hill, either.

Mixed route driving returned an average 47 mpg, some way off the claimed 74.3.

• *The new Peugeot 308*

The five-speed manual gearbox doesn't quite have the slickness of the firm's six-speeder, but remains good. Brakes are reassuringly responsive, without being over-sensitive.

The chassis is fluid and controlled, which keeps the 308 flat through the corners, while the ride remains supple and smooth. Steering is responsive, but does lack some feel.

Refinement levels are about right for this class: the engine never booms and minimal tyre and wind noise enters the cabin.

VERDICT:

Peugeot have been going from strength-to-strength over recent years. This new 308 is the culmination of their efforts: it's a much better car than its predecessor and is worthy of comparison with any current rival.

Facts at a glance

OTR Price: £17,895
Engine: 1.6-litre 4cyl, diesel
Max Power: 92 bhp @ 4000 rpm
Torque: 230Nm at 1750 rpm
Transmission: Five-speed manual
0-62 mph: 11.3 seconds
Combined MPG: 74.3 (claimed)
CO2 emissions: (g/km) 99
Annual Road tax: £0

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However, this move to a fixed location and the removal of the van based mobile repair service has not meant that Andrew has lost sight of the importance of continueing to offer industry leading levels of customer convenience and service and he is quick to reassure customers that he will not be losing sight of the importance of remaining available to customers at all times with free repair advice.

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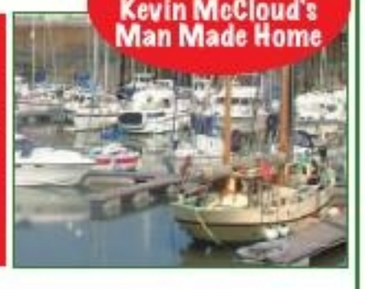
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LIZ 24 attractive blonde, green eyes, size 14, likes golf, pubs, comedy, holidays, WLTM professional well built male for romance, tlc and more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3692 Box No: 408303**

HI I am Sally a single 28yr old female, pretty, size 8-10 with a GSOH and fun to be with looking for similar lonely male for mutual companionship, dates and more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3692 Box No: 407951**

man seeking

BERNARD 63, brown hair/eyes, seeking lady for soul mate, romance and TLC. **Tel No: 0906 500 3692 Box No: 409883**

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Basingstoke draw moves them eight clear of drop

A 17-17 draw with CS Rugby last Saturday means Basingstoke RFC have moved eight points clear of the relegation zone in the National League Three London and South East standings.

CS were the first to get off the mark as Tom McArthur went over on 21 minutes, with the subsequent conversion coming from Mike Ward.

But 'Stoke were quickly able to reduce the deficit as Rudi Kochanowski scored the home side's first try, although Adam Davies missed collecting the extras.

Matt Guilfoyle put the hosts ahead minutes later, and this time Davies got the conversion to give 'Stoke a 12-7 lead at the break.

CS narrowed the gap as Ward kicked over a penalty soon after half-time, but 'Stoke again replied through an unconverted David Byett try.

The hosts now had a seven-point lead, but CS quickly wiped out the gap as Jon Webber scored the visitor's second try, again converted by Ward.

'Stoke stay 11th in the standings with 35 points after 19 games, seven ahead of relegation-threatened Barnes.

No match is scheduled for 'Stoke on Saturday, who next make the trip to Hertford on March 1.

Brilliant Bison get back to their best

By **Adam Flinn**
news@basingstokeobserver.co.uk

BASINGSTOKE Bison enjoyed two dominant wins last weekend, which sees them stay level on points with English Ice Hockey Premier League leaders Manchester Phoenix.

A Joe Greener hat-trick helped Bison to a 6-2 win away to Milton Keynes Lightning on Saturday, before a 7-2 victory over Slough Jets at home the following day.

Greener opened the scoring at 6:47 before Andy Melachrino marked his return from injury with a goal less than a minute later.

Bison were soon three ahead as Greener got his second at 11:56 unassisted, and the hat-trick was complete six minutes into the second period.

Stuart Mogg then picked up his first career goal in the league at 32:31, before Lightning were finally able to get on the board with a powerplay goal courtesy of Stanislav Lascek.

Tomas Karpov got Bison's sixth at 43:12, with Michael Farn getting a consolation goal for Lightning seven minutes later for a final 6-2 result.

Bison completed their four-point weekend as they thrashed Slough Jets 7-2, five of which coming in the first period alone.

Ciaran Long got the first at 9:13, and Aaron Connolly quickly made it two as he drove the puck hard to the net from the left corner.

Melachrino, Connolly and Joe Rand all scored goals in quick succession in the final three minutes of the first period, to give Bison a comfortable lead with two-thirds of the match remaining.

Jets managed to score the only goal of the second period through Matt Towalski, but Bison soon had a sixth as Karpov added another early in the third period.

Eddie Temple scored the Jets second at 55:31, but once again Karpov restored the five-goal cushion moments later, for a final 7-2 scoreline.

Bison and Manchester Phoenix are level on 62 points at the top of the standings, and now have a seven-point gap back to Guildford Flames in third.

They next face Phoenix on Saturday in their only game of the weekend.

Bison travelled to Sheffield Steeldogs last night as the Observer went to press.

• Aaron Connolly (Picture by Grant King (5holephotography.co.uk))

Sport Bites

Jam Boys lose

WHITCHURCH'S first league match since January 11 ended in a thrashing for the Jam Boys, as they lost 4-0 at home to Bemerton Heath Harlequins.

The recent bad weather has led to numerous postponed fixtures for all of North Hampshire's football teams, with Whitchurch, Tadley Calleva and Hartley Wintney all having games this week called off.

Wintney's match against Epsom and Ewell and Whitchurch's trip to Fawley were called off last Saturday, while Calleva's game versus Overton United was postponed on Tuesday evening.

Despite Tuesday's result, Whitchurch remain sixth in the Wessex Premier standings, while Calleva are eighth in the Wessex First Division.

Hartley Wintney were scheduled to travel to Croydon last night as the Observer went to press.

Rose's return

JUSTIN Rose returned to golfing action last weekend for his first professional tournament of the year, finishing in a tie for 45th at the PGA Northern Trust Open in California.

Rounds of 70, 72, 68 and 73 gave Rose a final score of one under par, 14 shots behind tournament winner Bubba Watson.

Rose was one of seven players to finish on -1, and is currently ranked fifth in the world.

Foster and Collard's testing return hampered by sodden Thruxton track

• Rob Collard was pleased with Tuesday's test at Thruxton (Pictures by Jakob Ebrey)

NORTH Hampshire touring car drivers Rob Collard and Nick Foster returned to on-track action on Tuesday, for their first pre-season test at Thruxton.

Their eBay Motors team was one of seven taking part at the test, which was blighted by wet weather for much of the day.

Collard wrote on Twitter: "Great day testing the updated eBay BMW at Thruxton", but he also mentioned problems many of the cars were having with aquaplaning on the soaking track.

Teenage driver Aiden Moffat was one of the drivers who struggled with the rain, and was involved in a sizeable crash as he went off track onto the wet grass to avoid a rabbit.

The new season begins at Brands Hatch on March 30, and the drivers will return to Thruxton on May 4 for the third round of the championship.

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Inside: Brilliant Bison get back to their best | Basingstoke draw moves them eight clear of drop zone

'WE JUST WANT MATCHES NOW'

Bristow laments 'crazy' fixture pile-up as side face 19 games in last two months

JASON Bristow has said his Basingstoke side are itching to get back out on the pitch after another of their fixtures fell foul of the wet weather.

By James Booker
news@basingstokeobserver.co.uk

Tuesday night's encounter at Farnborough was postponed earlier in the day due to a waterlogged pitch.

The Dragons' fixture list has been decimated in recent weeks, and they now face a daunting 19 games in the last two months of the season.

"It's frustrating, but everyone's in the same boat," said Bristow. "Very few games have been played [recently], but we have a crazy amount of games to catch up on in the next few weeks.

"It's really frustrating, and something that's out of our control.

"In some ways we've been quite fortunate in that we've had training facilities and put on some good sessions, but we just want games now."

They face a trip to Bath on Saturday – one of the teams who have been able to get most of their fixtures on – and Bristow is optimistic his team will return to action.

"Bath to be fair on Saturday should be on," he said. "I don't think they've lost one to the weather yet, so we're really hopeful that will be on."

One plus from the lack of professional action is that Bristow has virtually a fully-fit squad to choose from.

Adam Green is set to finish his suspension, and on-loan Reading midfielder Matt Partridge is out for 'several weeks' after picking up ankle ligament damage while on Royals under-21 duty.

"As soon as we can get the next game out the way and back into the swing of things I think we'll be in good shape," said Bristow.

"We just want the next game to come and start the next run of games.

"It's going to be really tough going into the last two months of the season and we have to play 19 games."

Bristow added that the Skrill South powers-that-be might have something to consider when planning the fixtures schedules for future seasons.

"That was something we spoke about in-house," he said. "There seemed to be a lot of midweek fixtures and we weren't getting any.

"Once again it's frustrating that when the weather was good, we weren't playing.

"It's something that the league may have to look at in the future."

• Skipper Wes Daly in action against Boreham Wood on February 3, their last competitive fixture (Picture by Les Chase)

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Representative finance example for SEAT Ibiza 1.4 Toca: Cash price £9,495.00, Deposit £168.00, 35 Monthly payments of £168.90, Final payment £4,815.00, Total amount payable £11,079.50, Total amount of credit £9,327.00, Duration 36 months, 7.7% APR. *(includes £1000 deposit contribution) Free Tech Pack worth £1075.
Vehicles are shown for illustration purposes only. These offers supersede all previously advertised offers. Prices correct at time of going to press. Offers are subject to availability. Licenced credit brokers, written details available on request, finance is subject to status. E&OE. 0844/0843 Numbers charged at local rate. 54200

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Official Fuel Consumption Figures for the Suzuki Splash range mpg (litres/100km) and CO_2 emissions (g/km): Urban 40.9-50.4 (6.9-5.6), Extra Urban 56.5-67.3 (5.0-4.2), Combined 49.6-60.1 (5.7-4.7), CO_2 emissions 131-109 g/km and for the Suzuki Swift range mpg (litres/100km) and CO_2 emissions (g/km): Urban 41.5-60.1 (6.8-4.7), Extra Urban 57.6-83.0 (4.9-3.4), Combined 50.4-72.4 (5.6-3.9), CO_2 emissions 128-101 g/km.

The above fuel consumption figures are based on an EU test for comparative purposes only and may not reflect real driving results. *VAT free offer on Splash range: Splash 1.0 SZ2 available from £7,999, including customer saving of £1,600 to Splash 1.2 SZ4 A/T available at £10,645 including customer saving of £2,129 equivalent to VAT amount of previous on the road price of £9,599 (SZ2) and £12,774 (SZ4 A/T). VAT equivalent reduction is not available on vehicle options or accessories. *VAT free offer on Swift range: Swift 1.2 SZ2 3dr available from £8,999, including a customer saving of £1,800 to Swift 1.2 SZ4 5dr 4x4 available at £13,116 including customer saving of £2,623 which is equivalent to the VAT amount of the previous on the road price of £10,799 (SZ2 3dr) and £15,739 (SZ4 5dr 4x4). VAT equivalent reduction is not available on vehicle options or accessories. VAT Free offer excludes Swift Sport and Swift Sport SZ-R. For full details contact your local participating Suzuki Dealer. Offer subject to availability for vehicles privately registered between 1st January 2014 to 31st March 2014 from participating Authorised Suzuki Dealers only. Offer cannot be used in conjunction with any other offers. All prices and specifications correct at time of going to print. Swift specifications and prices refer to the 2013 facelift model. Model shown: Splash SZ4 (metallic paint available at £415). Model shown: Swift SZ4 5dr (metallic paint available at £430).

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